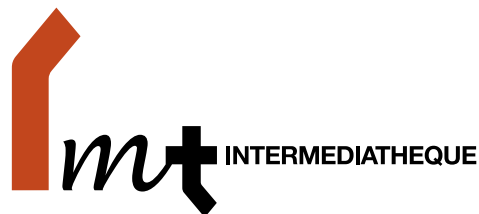




PRESS RELEASE



INTERMEDIATHEQUE
JP Tower/KITTE 2-3F 2-7-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku,
Tokyo 100 7003 JAPAN
www.intermediatheque.jp

August 2019

Special Exhibition

Intermediatheque Natural History Series <5>

“The Enlightenment in Objects – Mr. Loudon's Collection of Mirabilia”



Main Features of the Exhibition


The educational heritage of 19th-century modern science

- The first presentation in Japan of 50 items from a first-rate British collection of educational heritage.
- Included are 14 glass specimens produced by Bohemian model makers Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka.
- 11 objects were made in Japan, including a *Xylarium* by Katō Chikusai, and an *Illustrated Album of Fish and Insects* dating back to the late Edo period.
- A new perspective on 19th-century scientific heritage.

Overview of the exhibition

As the fifth instalment of the Intermediatheque Natural History Series, we are holding the special exhibition *The Enlightenment in Objects – Mr. Loudon's Collection of Mirabilia*.

In parallel to his professional activities, Dutch-born banker George Loudon is a well-known patron and leader of the cultural and artistic world based in the United Kingdom, who also demonstrated his foresight in the 1970s as a collector of contemporary art. It is said that Mr. Loudon was utterly impressed, upon his visit to the Harvard Museum of Natural History, by the remarkable 19th-century glass specimens produced by Bohemian model makers Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka. Since then, his centre of interest as a collector shifted to the educational heritage of modern science, comprising pedagogic materials, specimens and drawings in natural history. His collection also includes nineteenth-century pedagogic material such as anatomical specimens by French doctor Auzoux, a stuffed specimen of a double-headed kitten, physiognomy specimens from China, wax-made educational materials from Italy, and natural history specimens from India, North and South America or the Middle East. Also included are a *Xylarium* made in the early Meiji era by Katō Chikusai, an artist attached to the Koishikawa Botanical Gardens of the University of Tokyo, an *Illustrated Album of Fish and Insects* dating back to the late Edo period, as well as a set comprising a celestial globe and a planisphere. Fifty of these precious items, including the abovementioned objects from Japan, will be traveling to Japan for the first time. Mr. Loudon does not hold a nostalgic view on 19th-century scientific heritage considered as something from the *past*; rather, this heritage is reactivated within the value system of the *present* era, in reference to today's sense of design. Such principles of collecting, using the heritage from the *past* fading away from our epoch in order to discover new aesthetic values, is an innovative approach to a problem museums have to deal with today.



Key Information

[Title] Special Exhibition: Intermediatheque Natural History Series <5> “The Enlightenment in Objects – Mr. Loudon's Collection of Mirabilia”

[Dates] October 19, 2019 – February 24, 2020

[Opening Hours] 11:00 – 18:00 (open until 20:00 on Friday and Saturday) *Opening hours may change.

[Closed on] Mondays (if Monday is a National Holiday, the museum is closed the following Tuesday) and Year-end holidays. May close irregularly.

[Venue] Intermediatheque 2F [GREY CUBE]

[Organizer] The University Museum, the University of Tokyo (UMUT)

[Admission] Free of charge

[Address] KITTE 2-3F, 2-7-2 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, JAPAN

[Access] JR lines and Tokyo Metro Marunouchi line Tokyo Station (Marunouchi South Exit).

Nijubashimae Station (Exit 4) on the Chiyoda Line (about 2 minutes on foot).

Lecture

[Title] “The Enlightenment in Objects – My Collection of Mirabilia”

[Lecturer] George Loudon

[Date] Saturday, October 19 2019 14:00–15:30 (Doors open at 13:30)

[Venue] Intermediatheque 2F Lecture Theatre [ACADEMIA]

[Admission] Free (no reservation required)

The number of seats is limited to 48. Your understanding is appreciated.

[Language] English (with Japanese interpretation)

[Organizer] The University Museum, the University of Tokyo

Publications

- Exhibition catalogue
- Card leaflet
- Poster

Main Exhibits

1.

Models of Fruits

Francesco Garnier Valletti / 19th century / Wax moulage with painting / 100×510×410mm / Loudon collection

2.

Model of European perch (*Perca fluviatilis*)

Late 19th century / Plaster with fish skin in boxes made of marble papers / 210×365×95mm / Loudon collection

3.

Les animaux de laboratoire : l'écrevisse: anatomie et dissection : trois planches coloriées à feuillets découpés et superposés

Jules-Philippe-Louis Anglas / s.d. [1905] / In-4to flap book, Figot frères / 280×195mm / Loudon collection

Contact:

+81 3 5777 8600 (Hello Dial)

Intermediatheque Natural History Series (5)
Special Exhibition

THE ENLIGHTENMENT IN OBJECTS

Collection of Mirabilia

1.



2.



3.



特別展示

十九世紀ミラビリア博物誌

—ミスター・ラウドンの蒐集室より—

インターメディアテック博物誌シリーズ(5)